STAT

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REPORTS REFUGEE GUERRILLAS IN BULGARIA BEING TRAINED FOR USE AGAINST TITO

Diplomatic circles in Istanbul report that the Greek Communists can be expected to become active again. Thousands of guerrillas saved their lives by crossing into Bulgaria after their decisive defeat by the Greek nationalist forces. Among these refugees were as many Slavs and Macedonians as Greeks. The Bulgarians, not trusting the Greeks, held them for a time in concentration camps. Some of them, however, following a rigorous examination, were later dispersed singly and in pairs to various factories throughout Bulgaria,

The Macedonians, however, were well treated. They were given food, money, and clothes and were organized into uniformed guerrilla units by the Cominform for use against Yugoslavia. These guerrillas are concentrated in the Pirin Mountains of Bulgarian Macedonia, where they are being trained in a camp in the vicinity of Gorna Dzhumnya by Bulgarian officers who have received special training in terrorist schools in the USSR. In this one training camp alone there are about 5,000 Greeks and 5,000 Macedonians. Each group is controlled by a Soviet political commissar. The group leaders, however, are not pleased by the constant pressure and terrorism exerted by these commissars.

Although these guerrillas are well equipped, it has been decided to furnish them with more modern arms in the near future. They have been informed that after undergoing training throughout the winter they will be sent to the borders, villages, and cities of Yugoslavia in the spring or perhaps earlier and that their duty will be to incite the people to revolt against the Tito regime.

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